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OUR NOVEMBER GIFT CONTEST.

month of November. We propose to give a spelling, definition and derivation of every word used in the English language, to the ively. There is no difference in the prize between the first, second and third. This work of its kind ever published in this country. It contains several thousand illus trations, many full-page colored plates, and

This premium is given in addition to all others. Any club-raiser will receive the various premiums called for the number of never contemplated by the laws, under names sent us, and in addition these three Civil Service. He did this on the very any time during the month of November, was after the election had been decided The names need not be kept to be sent in at as secured and due credit will be given. The umn the second week in December.

We trust that our club-raisers will all get unjustly given them. to work and try for this prize Dictionary, which is sold by the publishers at \$26. presume that a comparatively small club and spirit of the Civil Service laws has will win it. However small it may be, we been allowed to continue until nowwill send the Dictionary just the same.

THE SPANISH REPLY.

The Spaniards have returned a flat refusal to our proposition to take over the whole of the Philippines.

This was not unexpected at the State Department, and causes no uneasiness. It was anticipated that Spain would do just that way. It is the card that diplomacy would naturally play, and particularly Spanish diplomacy. But it fails utterly of effect, because every one sees that Spain is not insane enough to threaten to break off negotiations. and renew the war. To invite in the faintest way the resumption of hostilities would mean still harder terms. To so much as give the President reason for ordering the concentration of our ships, and the resumption of recruiting would mean the loss of the Philippines without any sort of compensation, also of the Caparies and other islands, and deal the gravest blow at the languishing commerce and business of the kingdom.

The Spaniards, therefore, while refusing to accede to our proposition, have veterans in every species of public em- For example, we paid last year \$37,with the islands for sufficient compensa- given. tion. They have, as usual, talked about an appeal to Europe, and arbitration. The German and French press are growling savagely over the matter. and the Russian papers, acting under

The English papers, on the other hand, applaud our determination to take the whole group.

The outcome will be that there will be no arbitration and no protest by any of the Powers. The Americans have from the first set themselves sternly against any interference from outside week of some long-promised and very their pensions. The crime of defraudparties, and these are much less inclined interesting articles by the late Maj.-Gen. ing them would not be so flagrant as to put their fingers in than at first. John Pope. They are charming and that of robbing the pensioners of their Each of them knows that we would vividly interesting stories of his explora- rights. If we are going to begin a receive a protest with very bad grace, tions when a young officer of Engineers career of National dishonor, let us comand consequently it will not be made. of the country now embraced in the We shall probably follow our National States of Minnesota and North and precedents, and in the end make Spain South Dakota, and on the "Old Santa some monetary allowance for the loss of Fe Trail" from St. Louis to Santa Fe. the Philippines. We did this with Mexico in 1848, and we also paid Spain a most entertaining writer, as well as a \$20,000,000 for the loss of "the Flor-distinguished soldier, and his accounts egg expedition, and especially enjoy idas." How much this will be will be of those countries as he then found them criticizing American officials. One of the subject of much haggling by the make a very interesting contrast with them attacks Mayor McLeary for do-Commissioners. The Spaniards insist their present civilization and progress. ing business in his office in his shirtfor all our trouble and expense in the

cession of Porto Rico and Cuba. of our paying anything to the Spaniards more miles in Alaska, and said to be sleeve the badge of energetic American to salve their sores.

REFORMING CIVIL SERVICE REFORM. We sincerely hope that President Civil Service reform than Mr. Cleve- of. land's course. He found the places Veterans, Pension, and Military matters, and letters lives to learning the duties, and were officers. In some instances Camps of rebels were all on the other rebels were all on the other relation. are accompanied by a request to that effect and the every reason in the world why they bodily. They were in large numbers in bridge. To our right rose three strong forts, should have been retained in the serfor the country on the field of battle have regiment all the higher officers resigned the first claim to any office or employ- or were removed, until they came down into Kentucky just a year before. THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. ment in the gift of the Government. to the junior Major, who was Com-In no other way can a man gain so good a claim. Then these men had proved themselves capable and efficient, and they gave the Government the benefit of years of experience. If Civil Service Reform meant anything, it meant Service Reform meant anything, it meant that they were anchored to their places be a son of a veteran, and had inherited Klegg, of Co. Q, with six enlisted men of that company, to be selected by Capt. Mc-Gillicuddy, are hereby detailed for that duty, firmly as a rock. But Mr. Cleveland turned them out by thousands-by actual thousands in Washington City As announced last week, we have opened a lalone. The numbers were not so great gift contest between our club-raisers for the in other cities and towns, but the protwo-volume Unabridged Dictionary, bound portion to the Union veterans employed in full morocco, illustrated, containing the was the same. To have served the country three or four years, in a fightthree persons who shall send us the largest ing regiment, seemed to be the best and clubs during the month of November respect- surest reason why a clerk or other officer or employee should lose his Dictionary is the most superb and perfect official head. Having run the guillotine to his satisfaction, Mr. Cleveland pro-

ceeded to fill the vacancies by political altogether comprises 2,338 royal octavo pages. henchmen, and then issued an order placing them all, including many classes eve of his retirement from office. It one time, but should be mailed to us as fast against him, and its only object was to Township, Village, Town and City in the perpetuate his wrong-doing, and give this great prize will be published in this col- his henchmen a lifelong lease on places broad basis of the Sons of Veterans, This utter perversion of the intent

nearly two years after Mr. Cleveland's retirement from office. The worthy men he wrongfully turned out are generally still out-their places are still filled, and their salaries drawn by the men without rightful claims that he put in. No get together as Sons of Veterans in everycanting by such hypocrites as Larry this malfeasance. They know it was a than any other man. In this way they gross offense, and that every day of its can become an inestimable power for dent McKinley cannot afford to be its benefit themselves beyond estimate. accomplice by permitting its continu-

his order still more sweeping than at making. present foreshadowed. It should absolutely revoke that issued in the dying

MAJ.-GEN. JOHN POPE'S

THERE is no end to the real estate Uncle Sam is gaining now-a-days. The triumph of the "Ohio Shirt-Sleeve The English papers laugh at the idea Recent surveys give him about 2,500 Diplomacy" promises to make the shirtvery good land, too.

SONS OF VETERANS. Now let us have the Winter filled McKinley will carry out the intention with zealous, well-concerted work in attributed to him, and issue an order building up the Sons of Veterans. No undoing some of the malfeasance of Order in the country has finer possibili-President Cleveland in the matter of ties than this splendid organization, and Civil Service. Nothing could have it rests with the Sons themselves whether been a greater mockery of genuine these possibilities will be made the most

The Spanish war has added immensely under him largely filled by veterans of to the prestige of the Sons of Veterans. the rebellion, who had been given them Everywhere they were the foremost to in pursuance of the pledges made by respond to the Government's call, and every company raised, and wherever built the year previous. vice. Every civilized country supports found they were sure to be remarked for enemy were beyond the river, the 200th Ind. the principle that men who have fought their soldierly spirit. In one historic upon a cleared spot which had been used for mander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans. He took command of the regiment and led it most creditably through the Porto the different regiments to proceed to their Rico campaign. Whenever any officer respective States to bring back recruits and distinguished himself the chances were Bowersox, of Co. A, and Corp'l Josiah Klegg, of Co. Q, with six enlisted men of his soldierly instincts.

These facts will tell to the advantage of the organization of the Sons of Veterans. The men who fought the battles said? of the Union were the flower of the manhood of the country. As a rule Shorty. "You're in luck." they married the sisters of their comrades-girls with whom their comradeis anything in blood and heredity-and Nation. They naturally form a class of themselves, and a class from which the country can expect everything in the way of the highest aspiration and action for its advancement.

Let us, therefore, make every effort to get the sons of veterans together in every and while maintaining its principles they may pursue any other object or purpose for which young men may desire to associate themselves. It may be a social club in one place, a reading circle turin' Chattanoogy." in another, a mutual insurance in a third. a farmers' club in a fourth, a military company in a fifth, a labor union in a thing, and feel that a man who is a son

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE will be glad to hear from Sons of Veterans It is to be hoped that he will make everywhere as to the progress they are

Some of the papers are figuring exdays of Cleveland's Administration, pro- tensively on what we could do in the vide for the restoration of the system way of ships, fortifications and guns if to the condition it was when Cleveland it "were not for the burden of pension laid his mangling hand upon it, and expenditures." There are some other conclude with a clause making manda- items of National expenditures that tory and emphatic that preference in all might be just as profitably inquired kinds of public employment to all Union into with reference to their abolition. This was sufficient to have built and faithfully in the time of her extreme battleships as the Maine was. In 10 of it?" peril should be considered as having the years this would give us the most to-night," said Si. "I spoke to the Officer tration, and a discussion of the matter in this respect, that should be regarded of a portion of their income. Not one itself." of them needs the interest that he receives a thousandth part as sorely as the pensioner does the little \$11 a month his partner getting up. he gets to keep soul and body together. Articles to Begin Next Week. They are not at least any more entitled to their interest than the men who wrecked that'll fool 'em. We shall begin the publication next themselves in saving the country are to mence with the bondholders.

> to American freedom of the press with the glad enthusiasm of boys on a rottensleeves. They are behind the times. officialism.



The shot fired by Nate Hartburn was the only one that interrupted the progress of the the country, in which both the great everywhere they showed themselves true 200th Ind. to the banks of the Tennessee parties joined. As a rule they had sons of their brave, patriotic fathers. River. Its cautious advance at last brought right out o' his hand, I'd make a detail from already—enough to last me to Looeyville. the supper things. My, won't they be surparties joined. As a rule they had sons of their brave, patriotic fathers. It out on the crest of a hill, at the foot of filled them for years, had devoted their They made the best kind of soldiers and which, 200 feet below, flowed the clear current of the mountain-fed stream. The sound added the prised to see us! Won't there be a time! which, 200 feet below, flowed the clear current of the mountain-fed stream. The competent and faithful. There was Sons of Veterans went into the army pickets could be plainly seen, and they held the further pier of the burned railroad

> As soon as it was determined that all the went into camp for the afternoon and night that purpose before our troops had been

A dress parade was ordered at 6 o'clock, and Si electrified to hear:

Headquarters to detail squads from each of their guns over against the side of the car, Si drafted men for the regiments, First Lieut. and will prepare to leave to-morrow morn-Si clutched his partner in his excitement

and whispered: "Shorty, did you hear that? I'm to be sent back to Injianny. Ain't that what he

"If my ears didn't mistake their eyesight, them was about his words," returned

"And you're goin' with me, Shorty." "The Adjutant didn't include that in his observations. I aint so crazy, anyway, to git back to Injianny. Now, if it waz Wisconsin ship made them acquainted. If there it'd be different. If you've got any recruits to bring on from Wisconsin, I'm your man.
I'd go up there at my own expense, though I

the carefully half-cocked his piece, took off the cap, rubbed the nipple to remove any science assures us there is—then the don't 'spose that Rosecrans could spare me just now. What'd become o' the army if the cap, rubbed the hippie to remove any the stray fragments of fulminate, and then let the hammer down on a piece of wadding "But, Shorty, you are goin'. You must go.

"Don't say won't too loud. You're detailed, and men that's detailed don't have much choice in the matter."

"But you must go. I won't go and leave "You'll probably act sensibly and dewhatever you're ordered to do. Of course, I'd like to go if we kin git back in time for this sociable with Mister Bragg. Don't want to miss that 'That'll be the he-fight o' the

war, and probably the last battle." "Nor do I," answered Si; "but the thing won't come off till we git back. They country. Let them organize on the wouldn't be sending back for the drafted men and recruits except that they want 'em

> "They'll be a durned sight more in the way than help," answered Shorty. "We don't need 'em. We've handled Bragg so far very neatly, all by ourselves, and we don't need anybody to mix into our little job. The fewer we have the more credit there'll be in lickin' old Bragg and cap-

The Orderly-Sergeant interrupted the discussion by announcing: "Here, Shorty, you're one to go with Si. The detail is made by the Colonel's orders as a compliment to the good work you boys jest as good as that all around here." sixth, and so on indefinitely. Let them have been doing, and which the Colonel knows all about.

"I always said that the Colonel had the finest judgment as to soldiers of any man in the army," said Shorty, after taking a Godkin and Carl Schurz can gloss over of a veteran is a little more to them minute's pause to recover from the compli-The boys were immediately surrounded by

their comrades congratulating them, and requesting that they would take back letters continuance is an aggravation. Presi- good for the whole country, and also and money for them. The Paymaster had recently visited the regiment, and everybody had money which he wished to send home. There were also commissions to purchase innumerable things, ranging from meerschaum pipes to fine flannel shirts.

"Look here, boys," said Shorty goodwe're neither a Adams Express Company nor in the gent's furnishin' line. We've neither an iron safe to carry money nor a the Sergeant then and there. But the repedler's wagon to deliver goods, John Morgan's guerrillas may jump us on the way home, and comin' back we'll have to have packs to carry the truck in, and half of it Il se stole before we git to the regiment."

But the comrades would not be dissuaded, and before Si and Shorty went to sleep they had between \$5,000 and \$6,000 of their comrades' money stowed in various safe places about their persons. "Great Jeliosephat, Si," murmured Shorty,

when they sat together in their tent, after the last comrade had departed, leaving his "wad of greenbacks," with directions as to its disposition. "I never felt so queer and let it be understood that they will part ployment which the laws direct shall be 791,110 interest on the public debt. skeery in all my life. I wouldn't for the world lose a dollar of the money these boys have been earnin' as they have this. But Every man who served his country entirely equipped nine such magnificent how under heaven are we goin' to make sure "I've thought of a way o' makin' sure of

o' the Guard, and he'll put a sentinel over first claim on any office or place that he magnificent navy in the world, just by us to-night, so's we kin git a little sleep. official instructions, are hinting at arbi- is qualified to fill. He has actual rights swindling a few thousand rich men out wouldn't shet my eyes, if it wasn't for that. Shorty lay down and tried to go to sleep, but the responsibility weighed too heavily on

his mind. Presently Si, who, for the same reason, only slept lightly, was awakened by "What are you up to?" Si asked.

"I've bin thinkin' about pickpockets," answered Shorty. "They're an awful slick lot, and I've thought of a hiding-place

shirt-pocket, rolled it up to fit the muzzle of and appetizing viands, to which his mouth his gun, and then rammed it down. "I'll know it because his mother's name's

the gun filled, and then stopped to admire him by his side.

"Now, nobody but me'd ever thought o' THE newspapers of Santiago take hidin' money in a gun. That's safe, at least. All I've got to do is to stick to my gun until we git acrost the Ohio River. But I haint got the tenth part in; where kin I put the rest? O, there's my cartridge-box and cap-box. Nobody'll think o' lookin' there for

> He filled both those receptacles, but still had fully half his money left on his person. with the pickpockets," said he, and returned of the Colonel's quarters. to his bed, with his gun by his side, and his cap and cartridge-boxes under his head.

examination immediately after reveille. good-by, give additional messages for the rare fits of considering himself a martyr.

home-folks, and directions as to their money and what they wanted bought.

But Shorty showed that he was overpowered with a nervous dread of pickpockets. He saw a possible light-fingered thief in everyone that approached. He would let ant to think of than good suppers." nobody touch him; stood off a little distance. "O, rats! It's as safe in there as from the rest of the squad, and when any- Set your gun down and come on in." body wanted to shake hands would hold him

Colonel patted you on the back a little, and Pompeii. "Well, you'd be stuck up, too," answered with you." Shorty, "if your clothes was padded and think the 200th Injianny is the honestest lot to box his ears. But he answered: o' hoys in the Army o' the Cumberland; but "That's too bad. But I'll tell you what nati Gazette, and mother'll be settin' beside if I wanted to steal the devil's pitchfork we can do. I've had a purty good feed him knittin', and the girls'll be clearin' away

on his right, the Lieutenant immediately in just a little. front of them, and two trusted boys of the squad directly behind, with strict injunctions to press up close, allow nobody between, and keep a hawk's eve on everybody. But both Si and Shorty were breathless with appre hension till they got through the crowd and were seated in the car, and a hasty feeling of various lumps about their persons assured them that their charges were safe. They and when the Adjutant came to "publish were in a passenger car, for luck. The Lieuthe orders," the regiment was astonished tenant sat in front, Si and Shorty next and and Si electrified to hear:

"In pursuance of orders from Division They breathed a sigh of relief. As they stood suddenly asked:

"Shorty, did you draw your charge before you rammed that money in?" Shorty jumped to his feet in a shudder

of alarm, and exclaimed: "Great Jehosephat, no. I forgot all about

"What's that you're saying about guns?" nquired the Lieutenant, turning around. 'You want to load them, and keep them handy. We're liable to strike some guerrillas along the way, and we must be ready for

"You fellers'll have to do the shootin',' whispered Shorty to Si. "It'll be a cold day when I bang \$150 in greenbacks at any rebel that ever jumped. I'm goin' to take the cap offen my gun. The jostlin' o' the train's likely to knock it off at any time, and send a small fortune through the roof o' the car. I'd take the money out, but I'm afraid o' tearin' it all to pieces, with the train

taken from his cap.

The long ride to Nashville over the ground on which they had been campaigning and fighting for nearly a year would have been of deepest interest to Si and Shorty, as it was to the rest, if they could have freed their minds of responsibilities long enough to watch the scenery. But they would give only a cursory glance and say,

'We'll look at it as we come back.' In the crowded depot at Nashville they had another panic, but the Provost-Guard kept a gangway clear as soon as it was discovered that they were on duty.

"You can stack arms there, boys," said the Sergeant of the Guard, "and go right over there and get a warm supper, with plenty of coffee." All but Shorty obeyed with alacrity, and

stacked their guns with the quickness of old and hungry veterans. Shorty kept hold of his gun and started with the rest to the supper-room.

"Here, Indianny," called out the Sergeant, "stack your gun here with the rest." "Don't want to-aint a-goin' to," answerthe Sergeant, catching hold of the gun.

"Nobody's going to take it, and if they did,

"Don't care. This is my own gun. I think more of it than any gun ever made, and I aint goin' to take any chance of losin' it." "Well, then, you'll take a chance of losing your supper," answered the Sergeant, "or shorty was rather you'll be certain of it, for the orders with him.

are strict against taking guns into the supper-room. Too many accidents have hap-"Well, then," said Shorty stoutly, "I'll do without my supper, though I am hungrier "Well, if you're so infernal pig-headed you've got to," answered the Sergeant, nettled at Shorty's obstinacy. "Go back beyond

the gunstack, and stay there. Don't you

come nearer the door than the other side of other time he would have conclusions with membrance of his charge laid a repressive hand upon his quick choler, and reminded him that any kind of a row would probably mean a night in the guard-house, his gun in some other man's hands probably lost forever, and so on. He decided to defer thrashing the Sergeant until his return, when he

would give it to him with interest. He



"SHORTY KNOCKED HIM DOWN."

shouldered his gun, paced up and down, He picked up his faithful Springfield and watching with watering mouth the rest luxdrawing an envelope with money out of his uriating in a hot supper with fragrant coffee had been a stranger for many long months. "That's Jim Meddler's \$10," he said. It cost a severe struggle, but he triumphed. Si, in his own hungry eagerness, had not on the envelope. Here goes Pete Irvin's missed him, until his own appetite began to be \$20. I'll know it because it has his wife's appeased by the vigorous onslaught he made on the eatables. Then he looked around for He continued until he had the barrel of his partner, and was horrified not to find the houses and the farms; look at the people shows dat dis cullud man nebber lef his

asked: "Why, aint he here?"

excitedly springing to his feet; "he has been the Wisconsin boys say that Wisconsin's as worf \$10. De law sez dat in dese cases knocked down and robbed."

sentinel sternly military, and holding his "That'll just have to take it's chances Springfield as rigidly correct as if in front said Si, hot with State pride. "God never no property nohow, de niggeh will hab to Why don't you come in to supper?" called

right, as they assured themselves by careful Come on in." "Can't do it. Don't want no supper. As they fell in under Lieut. Bowersox to Aint hungry. Got business out here."

"Nonsense," said Si. "Put your gun in mother'll be as glad to see you as if you was the stack and come in. It's a bully supper. their own son, and the girls'll make just as Best we've had for a year."

much of you, and mebbee you'll find another "Well, eat it then," answered Shorty girl there that's purtier and better, and "crustily. "I've got something more inport-"All girls is purty and nice, -that is, them "O, rats! It's as safe in there as out here. that is purty and nice, -but some's purtier

and nicer than others. Then, agin, one's a "This gun shall not leave my side till hundred times purtier and nicer than any o' we're home," said Shorty in a tone that them. I've no doubt that the girls out your "Gittin' mighty stuck-up just because the would have become the Roman sentinel at way are much purtier and nicer'n the general run o' girls, but none o' them kin hold

give you a soft detail," sneered one of Co. Q. "O, I forgot," said Si.] "Well, bring it in a candle to that girl up in Wisconsin, and I

"Can't do it. Strictly agin orders to take stuffed with other folks' greenbacks, and you any guns inside. But leave me alone. Go changing the subject, "we'll git to the stawas in the midst o' sich a talented lot o' back and finish your gorge. I kin manage tion about sundown. The farm's about three snatchers as the 200th Injianny. Mind, I to hold out somehow," answered Shorty in a miles from the station, and we'll reach home aint makin' no allusions nor references, and I | tone of deep resignation that made Si want | after supper. Pap'll be settin' out on the

The others grinned and gave him a cheer. The fragrance of the coffee, the smell of shake up that old cookstove, and grind coffee, When they went to get on board the train the fried ham smote Shorty's olfactories and fry ham and eggs, and bake biscuits, and Shorty had to change his tactics. He got Si with almost irresistible force. He wavered git us cool, sweet milk and delicious butter



"WHY, IT IS SI HIMSELF."

man in Co. Q or the regiment. I'll "____ Then his Spartan virtue reasserted itself : and they forged on ahead. A thousand well-"No, Si; you're too young and skittish. remembered objects along the road would

You mean well, but you have spells, have arrested Si's attention were it not for bustling out from a good meal in the commanded a view of the house, and there, officers' room. "Fall in promptly. We as Si predicted, sat his father and mother enmust hurry up to catch the Looeyville train." gaged in smoking, reading and knitting. The car for Louisville was filled with His first impulse was to yell with delight,

game" men, thieves, and all the human Old Towser set up a bark and ran down the selves a wink of sleep, but sat bolt upright he fumbled vainly for a minute at the gatethe entire night, watching every one with latch, and while he did so heard his mother steady, stern eyes. They recognized all the say rascals that they had seen "running games" around the camps at Murfreesboro, and who there." had been time and again chased out of camp father had the adventure. The Provost- and looking over his spectacles. Guard had been making one of its periodical you can pick up another. Plenty of 'em, the obnoxious characters. Several of these she had sped down the walk quicker than had tried to renew their acquaintance by she had ever gone in her girlhood days, her offering drinks from well-filled bottles, but arms were about his neck and she was crying they were sternly repulsed, and Shorty on his shoulder. quietly knocked one persistent fellow down with a quick whirl of his gun-barrel. When

Shorty was hungry it was dangerous to trifle They arrived at Louisville late in the morning, and were hurried across the river to Jeffersonville. Fortunately they were able to find there an eating-room where guns were not barred, and Shorty made amends for the past by ravaging as far as his arms could

tween his knees. "Say, pardner," said the man who ran the establishment, "I'd much rather board you for a day than a week. Rebels must've cut off the supply-trains where you've bin. You're not comin' this way agin soon, air you? I'm afraid I won't make 'nough this month to pay my rent."

Lieut. Bowersox came in with a telegram

squad, which will probably get here by tomorrow evening. A wild hope flashed up in Si's mind. "Lieutenant," he said, "we live right

here before to-morrow night." "I don't know," said the Lieutenant loubtfully, as he mentally calculated the distance to Posey County. "I hadn't ought

to let you go. Then, you can't have more

than an hour or two at home"-"O, goodness; just think o' havin' one hour at home," ejaculated Si. "It seems too bad," continued the Lieutenant, moved by Si's earnestness, "to bring you this near, and not let you have a chance to see your folks. It'll be a risk for me, and there are not many men in the regiment I'd take it for, but I'll let you go. Remember, it'll make a whole lot of trouble for me if von're not here by to-morrow evening."

"Well, then, go," said the Lieutenant. Si's head fairly swam, and he and Shorty laig at Chancellorsville, an he nacherally ran so fast to make sure of the train that hated de Yankees and all who'de sided wid there was a suspicion in the minds of some dem. He heared all de evidence, which of the citizens that they were escaping from wuz dead agin Poke, and den puttin on his their officers.

Si's heart was in a tumult as the engine- a big law book, he sez: bell rang its final warning and the engine "Dis case am fustly betwixt a scalawag moved out with increasing speed. Every niggeh what run off from his lawful masteh, roll of the swift wheels was carrying him an jined de Yankees, an a cullud man what nearer the dearest ones on earth. The staid at home 'spectably an raised cawn foh sped past.

Shorty?" he bubbled over. "It's God's shows clearly dat dis niggeh did run away country for a fact. So different from old from his masteh, jine de Yankees, an stay run-down, rebel-ridden Tennessee. Look at wid dem froo de wah. De evidunce also and the live-stock. Look at the towns and master's plantation till arter Appymattox. "Where's Shorty?" he anxiously in- the churches. Look at everything. Here's Derfore, de niggeh is guilty, and de cullud the country where people live. Down man innersent,

"No, confound it, he aint here," said Si, much reason for being enthusiastic; "but de shoat wuz akchelly stole, an dat hit wuz much finer than Injianny as Injianny's double de valvoo ob de ting stole shall be re-Si bolted out, followed by the rest. They finer'n Tennessee. I'll take you up there covered, beside de costs ob de suit, an sich saw Shorty marching up and down as a some day and show you." "Don't believe a dumbed word of it."

ing which his partner had not, and said he cames afore dis coaht hit'll so harder wid

"I wish, Shorty, you wuz goin' home, I concluded dat if I wuz goin tuh git rich start, their comrades crowded around to say answered Shorty, who had gotten one of his good-by, give additional messages for the rare fits of considering himself a martyr. too, to your father and mother and sisters, and—and—best girl. But my father and de Potomac.

"Si, I'd trust you as I would no other | and begged them to get up and ride, but the the supreme interest farther on. At last "Fall in, men," said Lieut. Bowersox, they came to the little rise of ground which characters as to whom there was entirely too but he restrained himself, and walked as much ground for fear-gamblers, "skin- steadily on as he could to the front gate. vermin that hang around the rear of a great | walk, and then changed his note to delighted army. Neither of the boys allowed them- yelps of recognition. Si was so nervous that

"Stop right there, Si Klegg," said Shorty.

front porch, smokin' and readin' the Cincin-

to git us something to eat! Won't they

from the old spring-house, and talk all the

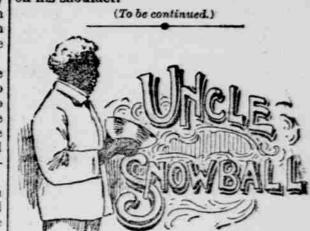
time! Shorty, you never heard my sisters

talk, especially when they're a little excited.

won't have you savin' so.'

"Father, there's a couple o' soldiers out

"Wonder if they can be from Si's com--even the whisky seller with whom Si's pany," said the father, lowering his paper, "Why, it's Si himself," screamed the cleaning-ups of Nashville, and driving out mother in joyful accents. The next instant



stoppin holes in a brush-fence agin razor-back hogs. Want us tuh pay dem \$500,000,000 for doin a job ob scavengin dat de world had bin cryin foh 100 years tuh hab done. We clean out deir ole slaughter-houses dat hab bin pizenin de air, an abate de noosances, over there in Posey County. Can't you let an den dey want us tuh cough up de price us go home? We can make it, and be back ob a string ob Klondike gold mines foh de privilege ob doin de job.

Minds me ob de fust, last, and only law-suit I eber had. Jest arter de war, like a good many udder fools, I done tuk up a Virginny farm. Dar was a passel ob no account niggahs and lesser account white men around my place, dat jest plagued de life outen me by steallin ebbery ting I could raise. Finally I had lef only one nice shoat dat I was fattenin foh Krismus. I set a great deal ob store on dat shoat, foh hit wuz all dat I had betwixt me an a empty meat-barl all Winter. Finally dat shoat wuz missin. I found out foh dead shore dat Poke Wilson, de orneriest niggeh in four Counties, had got away wid him, and I resolved tuh hab de law on him. "We'll be here by to-morrow evening, if I swore out a warrant, an de Constable he Justass ob de Peace. De Justass wuz one ob Stonewall Jaxon's soljers, who'de loss his specs, and purtendin tuh read de papers an

landscape seemed to smile at him as he de Confedrit army. De law makes hit my sollum duty tuh judge impartially, an de-"Isn't this the grandest country on earth, cide cordin tuh de evidunce. De evidunce

Each looked at the other in surprise, and yonder's only where they stay and raise "De case is secondly one ob de State ob Virginny complainin dat a shoat ob de valvoo "Yes," admitted Shorty, who had not so ob \$10 wuz stole. De evidunce is clear dat odder punishment as de coaht may inflict. De cullud man bein innersunt, an not habin made a finer country than Injianny. Wis- pay, and de Constable will immediately "What's the matter with you, Shorty? consin's nowhere"—— levy on his cow fold de same. The niggels Why don't you come in to supper?" called Then he bethought himself of the many should be glad tub git off so easy. Hit's The morning came, with their money all out Si. "It's a mighty good square meal. reasons he had for gladness in his home-com- bekaze hit's his first offense. De next time